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HELP DESIGN THE NEW RICHMOND SKATE PARK

Are you a skateboarder or BMX rider? Do you know about ollies, kickflips, grinds, and 720s? If so, your input is needed to help design the New Richmond Skate Park. On Wednesday, July 22 at 6:15 pm, a skate park design meeting will be held in the Council Chambers of the New Richmond Civic Center. The goal for the meeting, to be led by a skate park specialist from the American Ramp Company, is to generate ideas for the types of features that should be included in the skate park and to look at conceptual designs.

"The youth of our community should be commended for stepping up and demonstrating to the Park Board and City Council that they want a skate park," said City Administrator Mike Darrow. "But now we really need their help in coming up with a design for a skate park that they want to use and that could even attract skateboarders and BMX riders from the surrounding area."

After years of debate, numerous public meetings, and various proposed locations, skate park supporters received approval earlier this summer from the Park Board and the City Council to include a skate park in the Park System Plan. Fundraising efforts are now underway, and if successful, supporters are hopeful that a skate park could be constructed and opened this fall at Hatfield Park. However, city officials recognize that when it comes to moving forward and designing a skate park, the best experts are the youth right here in our community.

"Local skateboarders are the only ones who not only know what these specific skate park features are, but where they should go and what would make this skate park unique," said Public Works Director Jeremiah Wendt. "If you know someone who lives and breathes skateboarding and BMX riding, please help us get the word out and encourage them to attend this important meeting."

A majority of the members of the New Richmond City Council or the Park Board may be present, but no action will be taken at this meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Jeremiah Wendt, Public Works Director, at 715-246-4268 or jwendt@newrichmondwi.gov.